

# ***Health Policy Newsletter***

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## Office of Health Policy Granted Departmental Status

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We are very happy to report that on October 7, 2003, the Executive Council of Jefferson Medical College voted unanimously to grant the Office of Health Policy and Clinical Outcomes departmental status within the College. On December 1, 2003, this was ultimately approved by the Board of Trustees of Thomas Jefferson University. Jefferson now joins an elite group of medical colleges with a Department of Health Policy in its ranks. The faculty, trainees, and students will have a better appreciation for the place of health policy in the modern medical school curriculum. Others will appreciate how important health policy is toward a better understanding of resource allocation, improving patient safety, and measuring and improving the quality of medical care. The Department of Health Policy wishes to thank Dean Thomas Nasca, Dean Emeritus Joseph S. Gonnella, Thomas J. Lewis, President and CEO, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and the other department chairpersons for their support. The Department of Health Policy is looking forward to assuming all of its new departmental responsibilities.